

## ABSTRACT

An apparatus is disclosed for filtering data symbols for a decision based data processing system. The apparatus includes a buffer store for buffer-storing a sequence of  $n$  sequentially received data symbols. The apparatus also includes an  $n$ th-order median filter which calculates the minimum intervals between the  $n$  buffer-stored data symbols and nominal data symbols and filters out that data symbol whose calculated minimum interval has a mean value for the calculated minimum intervals.